



NEWSLETTER

December 2025

Welcome to the Woodside Academy newsletter! Here you will find up-to-date information on events in the school, as well as dates for your diary.



Current Information

Walking Bus

Please use our walking bus, leaving the Chadwell Pavilion at 8.15 am, after dropping children to school it will then pick up at the Bon Bon at 8.30 am.

Parking

Please park with care for the children in our school, not on the yellow lines and with consideration for our neighbours, leaving their driveways clear.

Christmas Bazaar

Please come along and support our Christmas Bazaar on Wednesday 10th December between 3:15 pm and 6:15 pm. Lots of stalls, refreshments, Christmas activities and a visit from Father Christmas. We are still collecting bottles, sweet and chocolates.

After School Club

Please be aware that on Wednesday 10th December there will be no afterschool clubs including our paid after school provision due to the Bazaar.

Pupil Premium Grants

Did you know you might be eligible for a **25% discount** on swimming, school trips, and music. Simply check the **Thurrock Council website** to see if you qualify for the **Pupil Premium Grant** via the free school meal applications <https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals/thurrock> It's quick to check, and it could mean more fun for less!

Advent Calendar Raffle

A huge thank you for your support in our Advent Raffle which was run by 'The Friends of Woodside'. We raised a total of **£644.00** which will be funded back into the school.

Christmas Disco

Our next Christmas Disco will be on Wednesday 3rd December, KS1 4:30 pm – 5:45 pm and KS2 6:00 pm – 7:15 pm. £5 each, this includes a hotdog and a drink. Tickets will be available to purchase via Parentmail until 3rd December 12 noon (no later).

Christmas Parties

Christmas parties will be held between Monday 15th – Wednesday 17th (class teacher will provide a specific date) and we are kindly asking parents to donate food.

If your child has a severe allergy or intolerance, you may wish to provide them with their own plate of food. Although teachers are aware of children with these dietary needs, please remind them prior to the party. Please can you ensure that any food items you are donating are in the original packaging with the ingredients on so it is clear what they contain. Party clothes can also be worn on this day.

Message from the ECO team (December Energy Saving)

Switch to energy-efficient LED bulbs to cut down on electricity use. Unplug devices when not in use to prevent "phantom" energy drain.

School Attendance

Please remember that regular and punctual attenders make better progress, both socially and academically. Term time holidays will not be authorised and penalty notices will be issued. Please see our Attendance policy on our website for more information:

https://www.woodsideacademy.org/_site/data/files/users/information/5A5346A9DDF4EACA67AF60ECF1230BE5.pdf

You must call the school office with any child's absences on 01375 372513.

Admissions

Reception admission deadline is on 15th January 2026 and Nursery closes on 13th February 2026.

Collection Times

As we are nearing to the Christmas holidays, please ensure that you are collecting your children on time and giving yourself plenty of time as the roads are busier this time of year.

Children in Need

Children had a great day on Friday 14th November raising an amazing £13,859.49 for Children in Need!! Run Pudsey was a huge success, that alone we raised £12,239.40. Thank you for participating and for your continued generosity.

Christmas Dinner

We will be having our traditional Christmas Dinner on Thursday 18th December; we will cook lunch for everyone. Please tell the office if your child does not want it or would like the vegetarian option. Children can also wear Christmas jumpers on this day.

Christmas Pantomime

'Outside the box Productions' will be performing Peter Pan for all children on Friday 5th December. This will be kindly funded by the Friends of Woodside.

Carol Singing in December

R to Y6 all have a day to sing carols outside from 3:10 pm – 3:20 pm.

R – Monday 8th, Y1 – Tuesday 9th, Y2 – Thursday 11th, Y3 – Monday 15th, Y6 – Tuesday 16th, Y4 – Wednesday 17th, Y5 – Thursday 18th.

KS2 Carol Services Friday 12th December

Our KS2 Carol service will be taking place in the hall in houses.

9:15 am – service 1 (Wilkinson & Holmes)

14:15 pm – service 2 (Redgrave and Moore)

Trips and Activities

We ask for contributions towards trips and activities that take place in the school day. We are not allowed to profit from these trips and activities, all contributions are used solely to cover expenses. If we do not receive these contributions trips may need to be cancelled.

Infant Nativities in December

Each class will present a Nativity with carols:

Y2 – Monday 15th 2B – 9:30 am, 2W – 11:00 am, 2M – 2:15 pm

Y1 – Tuesday 16th 1K – 9:30 am, 1P – 11:00 am, 1S – 2:30 pm

Reception – Wednesday 17th RE – 9:30 am, RW – 11:00 am, RB – 2:30 pm

Nursery – Thursday 18th 9:30 am

Reception Film Night – Monday 15th December

Film Night on Monday 15th December! To make the evening extra cosy, the children are welcome to come back to school in their pyjamas and enjoy a relaxing night of fun.

We will be serving hot chocolate and popcorn, and the session will run from 4:00–5:00pm.

We are asking for a minimum donation of £2.50 (payable on the day), with all proceeds going towards purchasing new trikes and bikes, and continuing our fundraising efforts for a wonderful outdoor music wall.

Thank you for your continued support—events like this help us create even more enriching experiences for the children.

Book Donations

If are having a sort out before Christmas and have any age appropriate NON-FICTION books to donate to the school library, please hand them into Miss McInerney in class 5M. Mainly looking for history, science, geography, RE etc. *Please no fiction books as we have plenty.*

Christmas Card competition – Jen Craft MP

Congratulations to one of our Y6 students who became the overall Y5/6 winner for a Christmas card competition ran by Jen Craft (MP) which was celebrated at South Essex College on Friday 28th November.

Dates for your Diary

December

Tuesday 2 nd	6E Assembly – 9:00 am *
Wednesday 3 rd	Y3 Thameside Theatre Panto Christmas Disco Flu immunisations 2 nd session
Friday 5 th	Christmas Panto – Peter Pan Santa Visit – Fobbing (SEND)
Monday 8 th	Reception singing outside 3:10 pm – 3:20 pm
Tuesday 9 th	5M Assembly – 9:00 am *
Wednesday 10 th	Y1 singing outside 3:10 pm – 3:20 pm
Thursday 11 th	Christmas Bazaar
Friday 12 th	Y2 singing outside 3:10 pm – 3:20 pm Christmas Carol Services Wilkinson & Holmes – 9:15 am * Redgrave & Moore – 2:15 pm *
Monday 15 th	Y2 Nativities (2B – 9:30 am, 2W – 11:00 am, 2M – 2:15 pm) * Y3 singing outside 3:10 pm – 3:20 pm Reception Film Night
Tuesday 16 th	Y1 Nativities, (1K – 9:30 am, 1P – 11:00 am, 1S – 2:30 pm) * Y6 singing outside 3:10 pm – 3:20 pm
Wednesday 17 th	R Nativities (RE – 9:30 am, RW – 11:00 am, RB – 2:30 pm) * Y5/6 William Edwards Panto
Thursday 18 th	Y4 singing outside 3:10 pm – 3:20 pm Nursery Nativity – 9:30 am * Christmas Dinner
Friday 19 th	Y5 singing outside 3:10 pm – 3:20 pm Last day of Autumn term

January

Monday 5 th	First day of Spring term
Tuesday 13 th	5L Assembly – 9:00 am *
Tuesday 20 th	6G Assembly – 9:00 am *
Tuesday 27 th	1P Assembly – 9:00 am *

February

Tuesday 3 rd	2B Assembly – 9:00 am *
Tuesday 10 th	4R Assembly – 9:00 am *
Wednesday 11 th	Steel Pan concert (time to be confirmed)

Spring Half Term Saturday 14th February to Sunday 22nd February

Easter Holidays Saturday 28th March to Sunday 12th April

Summer Half Term Saturday 23rd May to Sunday 7th June (2 weeks)

July

Friday 17 th	Last Day of Term
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* Creche provided